



BERGVLIET PRIMARY SCHOOL

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BPS NEWSFLASH - 14 of 2021 20 August 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians

We trust that you are all safe and well, and keeping hope alive in these turbulent times.

Covid-19 Update:

As you read this Newsflash, we will have completed 4 weeks of schooling for Term 3, one of the most stressful periods in living memory. The BPS community has not been spared from the devastating impact of Covid-19. Daily, we receive news of families and staff who have been affected by the third wave in the Western Cape. Many learners have had to isolate due to positive cases in their homes. This has disrupted our programme of learning and teaching, as learners have naturally been absent from school.

However, we wish to commend your vigilance, honesty and responsible attitude in this regard. We thank you for informing us of any signs of infection, and keeping your children at home in order to protect the health of others. This term we experienced a few of our own learners testing positive for the virus, a first for us in this Covid world. We remain grateful that despite these positive cases, there has not been a rapid increase in the rate of infections in those particular classes or grades. Clearly, the protocols in place on campus are highly effective. We therefore urge you to continue exercising the 5 Golden Rules and to prioritise the safety of the collective.

We continue to keep in our thoughts and prayers those families, friends and colleagues who have lost loved ones to the pandemic. May they be touched by our love and compassion during this difficult time.

Learn @ Home:

If your child is in isolation, please make sure you have communicated with the class teacher, so the necessary arrangements can be made. Work is posted to Google Classroom, or if parents prefer, the work can be emailed or collected at school. Remember, communication is the key.

Again, please be reminded of the Covid-19 Protocols:

If a learner is ill, or even has a slight cold or snuffle, please keep him/her home until the symptoms have cleared. Please pay attention to headaches, nausea, dizziness and body aches, as these are possible Covid-19 symptoms.

- If your child has had close contact with someone who tested positive, he/she must isolate for 10 days, dating from that contact.
- If your child has had contact with someone who is awaiting a test result, he/she must not come to school until the test result is known.
- If a learner who has been attending school tests positive, then we will do contact tracing to ascertain the need for other learners to isolate as well.
- REMEMBER: Being in the same venue as a positive person or passing them in the passage or at break is not deemed "close contact", if the Covid safety protocols were followed.



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Term 3 Extra Murals Programme:

The Term 3 Extra-mural programme has been suspended until it is safe to resume these activities. Experience has shown that infections spread rapidly via contact sport and intra and inter school matches. Although learners may be disappointed, our duty of care is clear - the health of our school community takes precedence over any other considerations.

Term 2 Assessment Reports:

These have been perused and discussed. Parents have been informed of areas where improvement is desired, and plans put in place to assist learners. At BPS, our learners are fortunate to have regular daily schooling. It is vital that they make the best use of this opportunity by completing tasks timeously, reading regularly and revising concepts taught in class.

School Calendar 2021:

There have been a number of news reports speculating about a possible cancellation of the October school holidays by the DBE. However, until official notification has been received via government gazette, we advise parents to remain calm and not worry unduly.

I recently came across this quote by Brooke Hampton, who said, "Speak to your children as if they are the wisest, kindest, most beautiful and magical humans on earth, for what they believe is what they will become." Covid has taught us to live each day to its fullest and to appreciate those closest to us. May our children learn from the example we set, so that their world may be filled with kindness and compassion towards their fellow human beings.

Wishing you and your families a wonderful weekend.

Please take care, stay safe and remember to apply the Five Golden Rules daily.

Sincere regards

MR BLP PAULSE